NEUTRALS—7.

1 Mr. A. Easwara Pillai (Kalkulam II)	4 „ J. M. Joseph
2 Miss. Hepzibah Gnanasikamony	5 „ E. K. Kunjuraman
3 „ T. S. Jayanthan Namboothiri	6 „ K. M. Kuriakose
	7 „ Srimati T. Narayani Amma

The resolution was declared carried. 41 voting *for*, 18 *against and* 7 *neutral.*

FAREWELL SPEECHES.

MR. K. C. ABRAHAM (*Kottayam II*): With your permission, Sir, may I suggest that owing to certain engagements fixed up for the evening by the non-officials and the necessity for making certain references before the House adjourns, it is our unanimous wish that business of the day may be closed and that you may be pleased to order accordingly.

PRESIDENT: This is a non-official day and I am not disposed to go on if the honourable members would not consider that I would be depriving them of an hour's business. It is suggested that, for certain purposes which probably may be known to most members of the House, the business should be stopped. I do not know what the sense of the House is.

The House unanimously gave its consent.

PRESIDENT: It was suggested to me that, before adjourning this House, as this is likely to be the last occasion on which the House, as at present constituted, would meet for the transaction of business, an opportunity may be given to the President to address a few remarks, and for certain members to offer some observations. This desire was conveyed to me this morning, and I gladly acceded. In the first place, it is my gratifying duty to place on record the sense of deep obligation which the Government owe to this House and I personally owe to this House for many courtesies and much help. The Legislature in Travancore is in a real sense in partnership with the Government. Increasingly that feeling has grown and I trust it will grow to such an extent that on both sides the realisation becomes clearer and clearer with the progress of time that to the extent to which Government take this House and the sister House into confidence in regard to their policies, to the extent to which they follow, as far as possible, the desires and the recommendations of this House, to that extent Government will not only be lightening its work but performing its duty towards the inhabitants of this great and historic State. Equally must it, I think, be made clear, and become increasingly clear, to the members of the Legislature that they as limbs of Government are performing very responsible and onerous functions in the discharge of which they should bring to bear upon that task all those qualities, firstly, of enthusiasm for work, secondly, of disciplined restraint and thirdly, of fearlessness in the discharge of the duties which devolve upon them as would enable them to perform that sacred obligation with which they were charged by their constituencies.

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I said something about the Government taking this House into full confidence I made some remarks with regard to this matter on an earlier occasion and I wish to repeat and re-emphasise those remarks. It is the avowed object and it will be the constant pre-occupation of the Government of Travancore that, so long as any matter is in the confidential stage, these confidences will have to be respected and strict reticence must be observed. In the enunciation and formulation of policies, in the carrying out of important projects, in coming to a determination on economic and political affairs of a nation-building character, Government will always take and endeavour to take this House and the sister House into the fullest possible confidence. Let me illustrate both sides of the question. When the Government of Travancore arrived at the decision to embark on a particular scheme with reference to the all-important question of transport, the public and this House were taken into confidence because Government felt that they had every thing to gain and nothing to lose by the fullest possible ventilation of views and by the expression of those views in the freest possible manner. Similarly Government have been taking and will take this House into confidence in such matters as Federation or other paramount matters, though not before the proper time. It may be asked why we have not done so already. The reason is clear; and I think I must state it here and now. Very recently a Committee of special representatives of His Excellency the Viceroy came to Trivandrum and had debates and discussions with the representatives of this Government on the question of reservations to be made and the conditions and limitations subject to which accession to Federation can take place. Those debates and discussions were definitely regarded as confidential at that stage. We were put on our honour, and whatever the temporary unpopularity may be, when we were so put on our honour, I have taken the line that no word must escape our lips so long as that compact holds. But the Government of India have been asked to allow the Government of Travancore to give facilities for taking the Legislature into confidence, and when and if that permission is granted, the necessary materials for a decision will be placed before this House, That I may assure you. There is another aspect to which I would refer in this connection. There were certain discussions with regard to the Cochin Harbour. We were put on our honour, and the Travancore Government was asked not to divulge anything. They did not, until certain details were published. Even now some of those details are in the confidential stage. Mr. Nanavathi, Deputy Governor of the Reserve Bank and Mr. Stocker, the Deputy Managing Director of the Imperial Bank are here negotiating with us in regard to a banking scheme. In regard to these matters, as soon as possible, this House and the public will be taken into confidence but naturally in the earlier and preliminary stages complete reticence is essential for the proper conduct of the business. It is expected, and confidently expected, that this House and the sister House will assist the Government not in the spirit of carping critics but in the spirit of collaborators and partners; and I hope that the Legislature of Travancore will, in future as in the past, act in that spirit of partnership with the Government of Travancore.

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[President.]

Before I proceed further I think I must point out to you the work that has been transacted by this House. Nine Sessions of the Assembly have been held during which the House sat for 97 days. Of these, 13 days have been utilised for transacting non-official business.

Fifteen official Bills and two non-official Bills, have been passed by the Assembly and they have become law after receiving the concurrence of the Council and the assent of His Highness the Maharaja. Those items of legislation are, some of them, very important. I need not remind members of those various items. But the Edavaga Regulation, the Travancore Provident Insurance Societies Regulation, the Travancore Village Panchayat Regulation, the Travancore Hindu Law Inheritance Regulation, the Travancore Rubber Control Regulation, the Travancore Ancient Monuments Preservation Regulation, the Travancore Agriculturists' Relief Regulation and the Travancore Life Assurance Companies Regulation; these are amongst the most important achievements of this House. And in this session we have passed, what I consider to be a very useful piece of legislation, namely the Income Tax Regulation. In course of time it is perfectly clear that Income Tax and super tax will have increasingly to take the place of other modes of taxing. It is obvious that sooner or later in this State as well as in other parts of India the method of deriving land taxes and dealing with agricultural incomes will have to be reviewed and perhaps reconsidered in the light of modern ideas. In the course of this session we have also passed what I consider to be a very important piece of legislation *viz.*, the Bar Councils Regulation. During the progress of the Bar Council debates I was not able to intervene. But I hold the view very strongly that the Travancore Bar yields to no other Indian Bar either in acumen or advocacy. I have been a member of this Bar myself and I know its attainments and potentialities. But in order to enable other people to realise this and to act upon that realisation and belief, we must keep high the ideals of our Bar. Our Bar Councils must keep high their standards and get all-India recognition. We have also passed a piece of social legislation. The Hindu Widows Remarriage Bill is indicative of the progressive character of this House. Altogether 2,620 questions have been answered in the House, the average number of questions answered on a day being 27 and a number of resolutions have been passed. These resolutions have been or being given effect to by Government so far as circumstances and the finances of the State would permit. The resolution passed in 1108 recommending that 25 per cent. of the tax for 1109 should be remitted, etc., was accepted and given effect to by Government with the modification that only 12½ per cent. of the tax on all wet lands was remitted. The resolution passed in 1109 recommending the abolition of export duty on copra and other cocoanut products, was also accepted by Government with modifications, that is to say, the tariff values of cocoanuts and of the principal cocoanut products copra, cocoanut oil, and punnac, were reduced for levy of export duty thereon with effect from the 1st Chingam 1110. The Budgets of 1109 to 1112 have been discussed and passed by the Assembly subject to a total reduction of Rs. 21,840. It can surely be stated that the Government have always given

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the best consideration to the views expressed by the members and have invariably acceded to the wishes of the House in the matter of these reductions, as for instance, in regard to the abolition of the posts of Income Tax Inspectors, of the Personal Assistant to the Inspectress of Girls' Schools, of Deputy Durbar Physician, and of the Tanning Expert. Taxes have been remitted or their payment postponed in really deserving cases, though not up to the extent recommended by the Assembly on the several occasions. Only in two cases of reduction made in the budget for 1112, *viz.*, in respect of the abolition of the post of Game Warden and the reduction of the pay of the present Director of Registration to the standardisation scale, it became impossible for Government to accept the proposals of the House owing to the difficulties involved therein. The Assembly discussed four important reports of Committees appointed by Government, *viz.*, the Education Reforms Committee, the Public Service Recruitment Committee, the Co-operative Enquiry Committee and the Agricultural Debt Redemption Committee. The views expressed in the House have always been of great assistance to Government in arriving at important decisions in regard to those subjects. That, in a very bare form, is a chronicle of the achievements of this House.

Before I conclude, I wish to say that this House has done fine work, useful work, formative work. I congratulate the members of this House, and to such of them as are likely to undergo the ordeal of the forthcoming election, I convey my best wishes. Your successors will meet under a different constitution, under a widely extended franchise. I do not mean any disparagement to those who are to succeed you. But I will say that they will do very well indeed if they follow your footsteps and keep up your standards, and sense of diginity, and the business-like character which has marked your debates and your deliberations.

I do not think I shall be acting fairly if I do not refer to the future of this State, of the country, under the costitutional developments that are proceeding apace. I have already told you that it is not possible for me to give you the exact details of the claims put forward or the case presented as to Federation by the Travancore Government before the Government of India and the British Government. I cannot give details until and unless I get permission to do so. But I may assure this House of the outstanding fact that the Government of Travancore feel very very strongly indeed that their nation-building policies are of such wide and comprehensive character, and their needs are so great and so insistent, that they cannot afford to lose any portion of their present income or revenues. Not only so but it is incumbent upon them, and it will be their paramount obligation, without oppressive burdens upon the inhabitants of the State, to see to it that they augment their resources in such a manner that their schemes can come to frution. Remember what those schemes mean. Those schemes, according to the commands of His Highness the Maharaja, than whom as I have always said there is no greater patriot in the land, those schemes involve the transformation of an essentially agricultural State into a State at least partly industrial. Those schemes involve the re-orientation of education and the remodelling of our systems of training in such a manner that our men and women may be fitted to play a

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[President.]

part in that industrial and economic regeneration without which we shall be hard put to it; and for that purpose they comprise the inauguration of a new University, not designed merely to multiply the existing facilities but designed for the specific object of enabling people to play their part in economic rehabilitation.

They also include the diffusion of power and of light, the diffusion of facilities for easy transport by reorganising and improving the motor-bus and trolley system and the canal system so as to make it easy for the products of our manufactories and our fields to reach their markets. These are our basic necessities. Remember that in an area of practically 6,000 square miles - because the rest of it is forest or backwaters—you have a population double that of Baroda and more than 150 per cent. of the population of Kashmir which is almost ten times the size of Travancore; and that population growing almost visibly day after day and year after year. Unless therefore new means of wealth, new means of wealth production are soon acquired our case would be very hard indeed. Therefore we require all the resources at our command. We require the co-operation of every body. We require conjoint effort, and we require economic thinking and economic planning. Therefore it is not possible for the State to diminish any of its resources, to make financial sacrifices of a substantial chracter. It is not intended, moreover, that this State will enter the Federation except as an equal amongst equals in every possible sense. These two requisites, it will be the preoccupation of the State, ever to keep in mind. At the same time His Highness' Government feel that Federation on the right lines is inevitable and essential. Without Federation some of the great problems of India cannot be faced; because *vis-a-vis* the rest of the world India has certain characteristic problems *sui generis* in nature. Its economic planning, and its industrial advancement, demand that the Indian States and British India stand together and work in close collaboration.

The task of reconciliation, of reorientation of ideals, of making it possible for all these entities to come together without jeopardizing their respective interests is a matter engaging the earnest, and anxious attention of His Highness' Government. When the time comes the public of this country and the Legislatures of this country will be given fuller details and the chance afforded for the expression of various points of view. Federation, it may be remarked in passing, under Section 5 of the Government of India Act is a Federation of Indian States and the Indian Provinces. Eleven selfgoverning provinces have to enter into a Federation with 600 and odd Indian States. Of the eleven self-governing provinces of the future if one can dogmatize from what has been happening within the last few days, the majority of the provinces will be under the guidance and direction of a very well organised body of politicians who have expressed fairly definite views regarding the Indian States, who think that the Indian States form a sort of fifth wheel in the coach and that the coach will run very well without the fifth wheel, and who have announced their intention to see that the Government of India Act is not implemented, and in any case that Federation does not emerge into being. It will be the task of the statesmen who preside over the destinies of the British Empire and it will

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be the task of that eminent statesman who is at the head of the Indian Government today, and whose most conscientious desire to help India is beyond controversy to see to it that these difficult problems are grappled with and solved and that we are not unwelcome guests in a banquet that we are not gate-crashers-an expression which has recently come into vogue to describe people joining in a function without invitation (*Laughter*)—but that British India and Indian India in a spirit of real comradeship, in a spirit of real give and take enter into a political compact, tending to the glory of both the component parts, to the maintenance of the self-respect of both parties, tending to the enhancement of the feeling that all India is one, tending at the same time to the preservation of the feeling that each of these State has an independent, equal and honouable part to play in the Federation of the future. This is the problem to be solved. We shall all watch that solution with the greatest possible anxiety and interest as well as with the greatest possible hope. This generation has a peculiarly heavy and difficult task before it. In the discharge of that task, the present Legislature of Travancore has played a worthy part, and the future Legislature, I doubt not, will also play a great part.

Ladies and Gentlemen, I wish you all prosperity and wish you Godspeed.

SADASYA TILAKA T. K. VELU PILLAI (*Trivandrum-Urban*): The House is extremely thankful to you for the very kind sentiment you have expressed regarding its work during the last four years. This praise, coming as it does from a statesman of the Empire, will be encouraging not only to us but also to those members of the Legislature who will win their seats in the next election, or get nominated as the case may be. At the time when this House was first inaugurated, His Highness the Gracious Maharaja was pleased to issue a message wherein it is stated thus :—

> " These two legislative bodies have been designed to carry forward the policy initiated by my illustrious predecessors of enabling the people of the State to take part in the legislative, financial, and other measures concerning Travancore and to bring to the notice of my Government the needs and aspirations of the people. Very large powers of legislation, financial scrutiny and interpellation have been vested in them and I hope and trust that, in a spirit of mutual co-operation and good feeling, these powers will be exercised for the good of Travancore and in such manner as to help Travancore to take an adequate and honourable part in achieving the destiny of India."

I think, Sir, these hopes have been fulfilled. Travancoreans can congratulate themselves that those sentiments expressed by the great patriotic Maharaja have been justified in considerable measure by the work which the Legislative Chambers have been privileged to do.

I may say, Sir, that the sentiments graciously expressed by His Highness *viz*.,

> "I am glad to inform you that the constitutional experiment that has been started in Travancore is being watched with sympathy and interest by many outside the State as is evident from the speech recently made by the Rt. Hon'ble the Secretary of State for India and I am confident that with the co-operation of all the members and the valued friendship of the Paramount Power and of His Majesty's representative in India the State will play its appropriate role in the India of the future".

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[Sadasya Tilaka T. K. Velu Pillai.]

It will be the endeavour of all the subjects of His Highness to remember these words, these eloquent, these beautiful, these patriotic sentiments in every one of their actions.

Sir, as you have been pleased to point out, this House has done a good deal of business. I am now talking from my seat as a member not forgetting the fact that it was my privilege to occupy the Chair for the greater portion of the time. I have worked with three Presidents in succession. I have had nothing but amicable relationships with them all. Particularly to you, Sir, it is my duty, my sacred duty to express that the telegram you sent, congratulating me on my election as Deputy President, the day you returned from England to Bombay was to me an encouraging inspiration, a benediction, and a blessing. I do not want to say more than this with regard to the encouragement I have been receiving from you as President of this House. Your advice is valuable to all of us. On this occasion I wish to pay a tribute to the honourable members of this House, both non-official and official, for the very great assistance that they have given me, and to congratulate them upon their excellent good sense and kindliness of spirit, for their readiness for team work, which have been manifested in this House. The Chair would have been unable to do its duty properly but for the help given by all the enlightened members of this House. The Chair should be a combination of firmness and conciliation. That was possible because the honourable members of this House respected the law and the rules and the conventions in such a degree that the work of the Chair has been nothing but smooth sailing. I am quite sure that anybody from outside, or from inside, who goes through the reports of the proceedings of this House will feel happy that, in Travancore, where the experiment of representative Government was begun much earlier than in other States, the people are quite fit for these privileges I consider it my duty to thank the honourable members of this House, all of them, jointly and severally, for showing such friendly consideration to me. I wish to pay them this tribute that the work done has been creditable whether it is from the point of view of liberal policy or eloquent or forcible language, or a spirit of courtesy or a spirt of give and take. I have been doing my duty whatever may be its worth, in perfect good faith.

If at any time there has been any sternness, I am quite sure, my friends would excuse me for that. So far as I can remember, I have not been unnecessarily stiff. My friends sent me to my office of Deputy President with a large majority. I had no occasion to thank them at that time. Now I thank them. I have been doing my duty to my satisfaction, because I had always with me three assets, firstly my faith in God, secondly my fervent loyalty to my Gracious Sovereign and thirdly a spirit of obedience to my conscience. I thank the honourable members of this House once again.

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MR. K. C. ABRAHAM (*Kottayam II*): Sir, I wish to add my own quota of acknowledgment on behalf of this Assembly. This Assembly which forms a greater part of the newly inaugurated constitution has been a part of the most momentous reform since the accession of His Highness the Maharaja to the throne. I need hardly say that this aspect of the constitution or reform will be gratefully acknowledged and remembered by His devoted subjects. Sir, this Assembly was formed, as I am well aware, and constituted, under certain exceptional circumstances. It was first presided over by Mr. T. Austin and subsequent to him, it passed through the persuasive hands of Sir Mohammad Habibullah, who was always so tactful as to keep the House in good humour; and then, Sir, to you, whose handiwork the whole scheme of constitution is, it came down and under your fostering care it has, I believe, grown from strength to strength. Your courteous and generous acknowledgment and your aptitude to be sympathetic to the aspirations and points of view of the non-official members have always evoked in us a genuine admiration for your statesmanship which hardly needs applause at my hands. Now that the Assembly is waning to a close, I wish to place on record our grateful remembrance of your work in connection with the constitution and also of your guiding hand in the final stages of its career for the betterment of the ideals and ideas of this country.

I also wish to place on record our appreciation of the work that has been done by the Deputy President when he was guiding this House. Of course, in spite of all that the Deputy President has been good enough to say, I may mention that we have very gratefully acknowledged his sincere and suave manners in putting us all in good cheer. Acknowledgment is also due to the leader of this House, the Chief Secretary, who has always been sympathetic and has always furnished us with all necessary and available information. I also wish to particularly mention the Law Member of the House, who with his clarity and logical precision, and to a certain extent his stern adherence to certain broad points of view, has been leading us all in legislative business. I do not wish to elaborate. But, I wish to place on record the fact that we appreciate the services of the Assembly staff.

I thank you, Sir, for giving us this opportunity to express our feelings.

MR. PACODE A. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Vilavankod*): Sir, the time of parting is a painful one. We are almost reaching the closing stages of this Assembly. Today is the last day of the ninth Session of the first Assembly. We may or may not meet again, as we are now constituted. Whatever it is, at this time, when we are reaching the closing stages of our labours, I wish to express a few words of appreciation of those hon'ble gentlemen under whom we had the privilege to transact the business of this House.

At the very outset, Sir, I may be permitted to refer to the gracious message of His Highness the Maharaja, a message of hope and reassurance, cabled out to us from London, a message which was read to

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[Mr. Pacode A. Narayana Pillai.]

us in this very House, on the inauguration day by the then Dewan Mr. T. Austin. That message is still ringing in our ears and we have been trying our level best to come up to the standard held out to us by His Gracious Highness in that memorable message.

Next, Sir, I refer to those hon'ble gentlemen who are privileged to preside over the deliberations of this Assembly. First, Mr. T Austin, a Senior Officer of the Indian Civil Service, an Englishman with an innate sense of justice was for a very long time guiding the deliberations of this House and safeguarding the privileges and liberties of the House. Next, we were fortunate to have Nawab Sir Mohammed Habibullah, an experienced British Indian Statesman with humility, experience and suavity of manners and he has for a pretty long time benefitting us with the riches gathered during his long experience. Lastly, I am glad to refer to the fact that towards the closing stages of the sessions of this House, we were particularly fortunate in having a President in you, Sir, who is rightly styled a shining ornament in the new British Indian liberalism and a keen fighter on the popular front in British Indian politics. When such a personage is presiding over this House, and is guiding the destinies of this House we have had no occasion to feel any misconception whatsoever regarding our freedom and liberties and privileges. You have assiduously safeguarded our privileges at all times.

Lastly, I have to refer to the fact that, in our elected Deputy President, we had a gentleman who was, I may be permitted to put it so, the Advocate General of this House, always holding the scale even between the two sections of this House, the Government and the non-official Benches. There was no occasion when we had to feel any fear, whatsoever, with regard to our privileges, when he was presiding over the House. At the same time, merely because he was a non-official elected Deputy President, he was not always upholding our cause. Whenever he found that the Government cause was the right cause, he boldly upheld that cause also. He has well and truly made a tradition which, we hope, his successors in office will carry on in the years to come.

Sir, I have nothing more to add except to pray, not only on my behalf but also on behalf of my colleagues, the members of the Independent Party, for the long life of His Gracious Highness the Maharaja and for your long life and prosperity and also for a prosperous and useful career for this House.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*): Sir, we thank you and the Deputy President for the encouraging words with which you have referred to our work as members of this House. As a member of the Liberal Party—a party whose chief aim and principle has been one of responsive co-operation with the Government, co-operation in all ideas and actions (of Government) that would contribute to the vital and national interest of the State, and opposition to all actions that would retard the progress of the State and the happiness of the people—I beg

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to convey my thanks to the Chair and to the Official Members. In this connection, I beg to submit that, personally as a member of this House, I have "stood for the cause that lacked assistance and for the cause that needed resistance."

Sir, we are at the close of this Session of the Assembly. The constitution of this Assembly is the result of the noble contribution and blessing of His Gracious Highness the Maharaja whose one and only aim is the promotion of the good and happiness of the people of the State. May His Highness live long and reign gloriously, is the fervent prayer of all Travancoreans irrespective of caste, creed or colour.

The first Session of this Assembly met under the black political cloud of misunderstanding that was the result of unhappy communal rivalry in the State. Now the Session closes in the bright and happy sunshine of communal amity and concord on all sides. Sir, we are proud and happy to go out of the Assembly Hall today as loyal subjects of His Highness the Maharaja, as those who have kept the oath that we took when we entered upon the duties as members of this Assembly, and in the satisfaction that we have rendered our duty to our Sovereign and to the State. Sir, we go out of the Hall to our respective constituencies to preach to our electorate good will to all and glory to the State and to the Ruler.

Sir, I am glad to proclaim at the top of my voice that the successive Presidents of the Assembly including yourself, and the Deputy President who has been doing the bulk of the work have attempted and succeeded in safeguarding the honour and prestige of this House and we the members, on our part, have discharged our duty to the best of our ability. The redeeming feature of this Assembly is that not a single occasion arose for the Chair to resort to any of the disciplinary action against the conduct of any member. This speaks well of the Chair and of the members. Sir, yourself, your predecessors, Messrs. T. Austin, Nawab Sir Mohammed Habibullah, and Sadasyatilaka T. K. Velu Pillai, the Deputy President, have all been uniformly kind and courteous to us all, and we thank you all heartily and sincerely for that.

Sir, one word with reference to the Assembly Secretary and the staff who have been helping us, serving the Government and promoting the conduct of the business of the House. The first Assembly Secretary Mr. Madhava Kurup has rightly and justly been promoted as Secretary to Government. He has been the embodiment of kindness and courtesy to us all. He was friend and philosopher to us. We are equally fortunate to have Mr. Parameswaran Pillai as his successor. He is always cheerful and ready to oblige us. Same is the case with regard to the reporting and clerical staff of the Assembly. All of them deserve *our* thanks, and encouragement at the hands of the Government for the hard and honest work they have been doing.

Last, but not least, is the help and advice that the official members have rendered to us all. All of them have been kind and good to us. If any one of us, nay myself, had occasion to be hard in any

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[Mr. S. J. Nair.]

criticism towards any one of them I take this opportunity to assure them that it was not the result of malice or personal ill-will against any one of them, but it was due to the anxiety to serve the people of the State. I love all, and hate none.

In conclusion, Sir, with your blessings, I—nay we—shall try to come back. May God bless you and our Sovereign with long life, health and glory.

MR. PUTHUPALLI S. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon II*): Sir, on behalf of the members of the Nationalist party, I may be permitted to speak a few words. The Liberals, the Independents, the Nationalists and the Non-Party Members, have all, though their names are different, but one object in view. That object is to help the Government of His Highness the Maharaja so to administer the State as to achieve the best results. In classifying ourselves as members of different parties, it was none of our object, Sir, to stand in opposition to Government. It has always been our attempt and our aim to help the Government wherever it was possible, and wherever it was consistent with the principles we were standing for. If, on any occasion, we were put to the necessity of opposing Government or of adversely criticising the activities of the Government, I may assure you that we were actuated by the best of motives. We have been brought into being, as observed by some honourable member, under a storm. We are glad to note that the atmosphere has considerably cleared now. We cannot ascribe this atmosphere to any one except yourself. We hope that our successors in this House will adopt the same policy, and would be guided by the same principle, as ours, namely that of helping Government in discharging its onerous duties and responsibilities. It may be the lot of many of us to be returned to this House and to partake in its deliberations. But those who may not have the good fortune to take part in the deliberations of this House will, I am sure, find no occasion to regret. They have done their best, and they have done their utmost. Every one has been actuated by the best of motives.

In regard to the deliberations of this House, there is one thing which I would like to observe. After you became the Dewan-President of this Assembly, your presence in the House and the reputation you have, have inculcated a spirit of good sense and responsibility in all of us. We have been able to take part in the deliberations of this House with a spirit which was novel and new to many of us. By your constant presence in the House you have inculcated in the minds of the members the gravity and importance of the duties that devolved upon them.

A word, in regard to the official members of this House, is also due to them. I have systematically found them to be courteous to the non-official members. They have never taken offence at the freedom with which we have expressed our thoughts. They have always tried to promote a feeling of amity and concord between the official and the non-official Benches.

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The first responsible post that has fallen to our lot is that of the Deputy President. Ever since the Assembly was put on a popular basis, the first opportunity given to us to elect our Deputy President was given to us. I fully trust that we have exercised our right in the best manner possible. We thank our Deputy President for the very able manner in which he has been guiding this House.

It is only in the fitness of things that we should say a word about the official reporters, but for whose existence our proceedings would not have been properly reported and published. To the Secretaries also, our thanks are due. I have always found them to be of help. They have listened to our demands and acceded to our requests. We have nothing to blame but everything to praise. The deliberations of the Assembly recorded with the help of such an efficient staff cannot but make their mark in any deliberative body. Sir, the period for which we have been elected to this House is practically over. We have nothing more to say. I thank the President and the official members of this House for the cordiality with which they have been treating us.

SRIMATI T. NARAYANI AMMA (*Nominated*): Sir, this being the last meeting of the First Assembly constituted under the new Regulation, I feel it my duty to express on my own behalf and on behalf of my sister here, our sincere thanks to you Sir, and to the Deputy President, for the consideration and courtesy shown to us, the lady members of this House. Though we feel that we have not been able to make any effective contribution to the discussions held on the floor of this House, we can assure you Sir, that our interest in the proceedings has been unflagging. We have indeed learnt much. We have always been treated with courtesy and consideration not only by the President and the Deputy President but also by the Law Member and the other officials. Speaking for myself I am deeply grateful to all of them for the encouragement I have received in regard to the two Bills I have had the privilege to introduce in this House, one of them being passed yesterday. I feel that this is an encouragement extended to the womanhood of Travancore. May it be possible with this encouragement, for more women to become members of this House in future, not only by nomination but also by election. Sir, I thank you once again. May I be permitted to add that under your distinguished Presidentship, there have been set up healthy conventions which are bound to add to the usefulness and the dignity of this House. I thank you, Sir the Deputy President, and all the other members of this House.

RAO SAHIB MAHAKAVI S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR (*Nominated*): Sir, I have great pleasure in associating myself with the sentiments that have just been expressed by several members of this House. It is so difficult for us to believe that you have been here as Dewan in our midst only for a short time. Every hour of your life after you became Dewan has been crowded with great, epoch-making activities. You have been of great service to Travancore in several spheres. Your work as President of this Assembly is only one phase of such all-Travancore activities.

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[Rao Sahib Mahakavi S. Parameswara Aiyar.]

The words of wisdom that have fallen from your lips this evening will, I am sure, sink deep down into the heart of every Travancorean, make him forget his difference with others, and be an inspiration to him to build a rejuvenated and virile Travancore for the future.

As for the Deputy President, who is an old and valued friend of mine, his work has been extremely praise-worthy. He said that he had three assets which helped him in the discharge of his duties. He forgot to mention a fourth asset, which is his pre-eminent trait, *viz.*, his transparent sincerity, which disarms opposition, inspires confidence and enlists affection. With that he has been able to guide the deliberations of this House with tact and firmness.

A word of praise is also due to the Secretaries of the Assembly, Mr. Madhava Kurup and Mr. Parameswaran Pillai. Both of them worked under me for several years; and I had something to do with their training. It is a very great pleasure to me to place on record my great appreciation of the valuable work done by them. The staff under them, including the shorthand reporters, have also done their duty to our entire satisfaction; and to all of them our thanks are due in no small measure.

MR. G. NILAKANTAN (*Nominated*): Sir, in associating myself with what has been said by the previous speakers I wish to make a few observations on this parting occasion. In bidding farewell to the Assembly my feelings are those of a grateful son taking leave of his benign mother who has nurtured him into manhood, in an atmosphere in which the pick of the land, forgetting all communal promptings felt, spoke and acted in the best interest of the country of their birth. She has afforded opportunities to members of all communities, to whom the privilege of taking part in the activities of the higher fields of politics had been denied, to feel that, with necessary knowledge and training they could also contribute their mite towards the advancement of their country. Was not, Sir, the denial of such opportunities hitherto tantamount to suppression of their legitimate aspirations? Thanks to the wisdom, foresight and beneficiencies of His Highness the Maharaja and of you, His great constitutional advisor, all social, political and religious obstacles that warped the social soul of the country for centuries have been swept away both by the legislative reforms of 1108 and by the soul stirring Temple Entry Proclamation.

It is now half a century since the institution of the Legislative Council was brought into existence in this country; yet it is the Legislative Reforms of 1108, that, for the first time, enabled the Legislature of our country to enjoy in a real measure the principles of democracy, in its deliberations and administrative functions, and was open to the entry of the representatives of the backward and depressed communities through a sympathetic system of nomination.

The criticisms to which the conduct and measures of Government officials were subjected to their conciliatory attitude to win the approbation of the non-officials to their views and measures exhibiting the

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rising tide of democratic strength, the exchange of sallies of wit and humour, the lucid and ever ready replies of the Law member, the strong and convincing advocacy by the Leader of the House of Government causes, eloquence, debating powers, and legal love of some of the members, the long and conciliatory rulings of the Deputy President and the alert and brilliant manner in which the President was conducting the proceedings of the House and his radiating sweetness of manner which nothing could disturb, these, I say as a source of lesson and inspiration, are a precious heritage to the rising generation and will be things of pleasant and abiding memory to every member of the House and particularly to those who may not have the opportunity to be returned to the Assembly. For these boons may the Giver of all the good, grant His Highness long life and prosperity, and to His noble minister long life and abundant health to help his Sovereign Master in guiding the destinies of our great country.

MR. N. ABDUR RAHIMAN SAHIB (*Nominated*): I fully endorse all that has been said by the various speakers. I have great pleasure in expressing my heart-felt thanks to you, Sir, for the uniform courtesy you have shown, for maintaining the diginity and honour of this House and for the Deputy President for the ability with which he has been guiding the deliberations of this House. The official members were kind enough to furnish all information required by us and our thanks are due to them also.

PRESIDENT: It is my duty now to adjourn this House. But before I do so, let me thank you most sincerely for the kindly sentiments to which you have given expression. This House will now adjourn *sine die*.

The House adjourned *sine die* at 5-10 P. M..

P. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI,
Secretary to the Sri Mulam Assembly.

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